CLAIMS

1. A processing aid for thermoplastic resin having a weight average molecular weight of 10,000 to 300,000, which is obtained by polymerizing an alkyl (meth)acrylate, or an alkyl (meth)acrylate and another vinyl monomer copolymerizable therewith, in the presence of a mercaptan having an alkyl ester group with C_{4-20} alkyl group as a chain transfer agent, and/or an organic peroxide having a tertiary-butyl peroxy group as a polymerization initiator.

- 2. The processing aid for thermoplastic resin of Claim 1, which is obtained by polymerizing 0.1 to 10 % by weight of the (meth)acrylate having an oxygen atom in addition to an ester bond as said alkyl (meth)acrylate, 10 to 99.9 % by weight of another alkyl acrylate, and 0 to 89.9 % by weight of another vinyl monomer copolymerizable therewith.
- 3. The processing aid for thermoplastic resin of Claim 1, wherein an amount of the organic peroxide having a tertiary-butyl peroxy group is 0.1 to 5 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the entire monomers.
- 4. A thermoplastic resin composition comprising 100 parts by weight of a thermoplastic resin and 0.1 to 20 parts by weight of the processing aid for thermoplastic resin of Claim 1.
 - 5. The thermoplastic resin composition of Claim 4, wherein

- 2 the thermoplastic resin is at least one resin selected from the group
- consisting of poly(vinyl chloride) resins, polyethylene, polypropylene,
- 4 polyester, polystyrene, polycarbonate, a methacrylate resin and an ABS
- 5 resin.

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6. The processing aid for thermoplastic resin of Claim 2, wherein the (meth) acrylate having an oxygen atom in addition to an ester bond is a (meth) acrylate containing an epoxy group.

- 7. The processing aid for thermoplastic resin of Claim 2, wherein the (meth)acrylate having an oxygen atom in addition to an ester bond is a (meth)acrylate containing a hydroxy group.
- 8. The processing aid for thermoplastic resin of Claim 2, wherein the (meth)acrylate having an oxygen atom in addition to an ester bond is a (meth)acrylate containing an alkoxy group.